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**Bognor Regis Urban District**



# REPORT

ON THE STATE OF THE

Public Health of Bognor Regis

1956

BY THE

Medical Officer of Health

*including*

A Meteorological Report by the Meteorological  
Observer.



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## Members of the Urban District Council of Bognor Regis, 1956-1957

Mrs. D. M. LOCKE, J.P. (Chairman of the Council)  
J. C. EARLE, ESQ. (Vice-Chairman)  
W. G. ADAIR, Esq.  
Mrs. L. G. ARMSTRONG  
E. M. BATES, Esq.  
T. BOOTHMAN, Esq.,  
E. T. BRYANT, Esq., J.P.  
G. A. CULVERWELL, Esq.  
R. E. H. FISHER, Esq., M.C.  
A. JAMES, Esq.  
A. JOLLY, Esq.  
L. N. LEWIS, Esq.  
J. M. LOVATT, Esq.  
F. E. PHILLIPS, Esq., J.P.  
W. J. REED, Esq.  
L. F. SMITH, Esq., M.B.E.  
W. T. VICKERY, Esq.  
L. E. WALWIN, Esq.

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### Public Health Committee

Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Council (ex officio)

W. G. ADAIR, Esq. (Chairman)  
Mrs. L. G. ARMSTRONG (Vice-Chairman)  
E. T. BRYANT, Esq. J.P.,  
A. JAMES, Esq.  
L. F. SMITH, Esq., M.B.E.  
W. T. VICKERY, Esq.

The undermentioned Committees of the Council are concerned with matters of public health :—

#### Committee.

Public Health Committee :

#### Responsible for :

General Public Health.  
Sewers and Sewerage.  
Refuse Collection and Disposal.  
Cesspool Emptying.  
Public Conveniences.

Highways and Foreshore Committee :

Street and Foreshore Cleansing.

Housing Committee :

Gully Emptying.

Water Committee :

Housing.

Water Supplies.

# Public Health Officers of the Urban District

The Public Health Department Staff consists of a part-time Medical Officer of Health, a whole-time Chief Public Health Inspector, a whole-time Additional Public Health Inspector, a Chief Clerk, and four Assistant Clerks.

Contributions are made by the Ministry of Health under the Public Health Acts to the salaries of those indicated\* :—

## Officers

### \*D. WARREN BROWNE

M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.T.M. & H., D.P.H.  
Medical Officer of Health (from 1.4.56)

## Other Appointments and Duties

Medical Officer of Health, City of Chichester.

Assistant County Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer, West Sussex County Council.

### \*R. G. COYSH

(Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Joint Board as Sanitary Inspector; Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and other Foods; Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute in Sanitary Science as applied to Buildings and Public Works. City and Guilds of London Institute (College of Technology). Finalist, Sanitary Science; Member of Royal Sanitary Institute.)

Chief Public Health Inspector.

Inspector under Petroleum Acts; Inspector under Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949; Shops Inspector under Shops Act 1950; Inspector under Pet Animals Act, 1951; Inspector under Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Act, 1952.

### L. ALLATT

(Final Certificate in Local Government and Public Administration and Associate of Corporation of Certified Secretaries.)

Chief Clerk.

Meteorological Observer.

### \*H. C. REEVE

(Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Joint Board as Sanitary Inspector; Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and other Foods; Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute in Sanitary Science as applied to Buildings and Public Works. Associate of Royal Sanitary Institute.

Additional Public Health Inspector

## CLERICAL STAFF.

Clerk/Shorthand/Typists :

MISS E. J. GREEN

MRS. F. M. MOTH

MISS A. D. HICKS (to 13.10.56)

Clerk :

MISS R. HASTINGS

## CONSULTANTS :—

- K. E. A. HUGHES, M.B.E., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Director, Public Health Laboratory, Portsmouth).
- R. F. WRIGHT, B.Sc., A.R.C.S., F.R.I.C. (County Analyst).
- R. C. HOATHER for water analyses B.Sc., Ph.D., F.R.I.C.
- R. WATTS, M.R.C.V.S. (Veterinary Surgeon).

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
TOWN HALL,  
BOGNOR REGIS.

August, 1957.

To the Chairman and Members of  
the Public Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the public health of Bognor Regis for the year 1956.

I succeeded Dr. H. M. Ayres as your Medical Officer of Health on the 1st April, 1956, and this Report therefore refers to periods during which we were both separately in office.

Dr. Ayres was appointed in 1930, and held office for 26 years. During that time, very great advances and improvements in the health and sanitary circumstances of the area were recorded, and much of this was due, either directly or indirectly, to his influence and his constant application of the principles of public health to local problems. During the last year, I have met, in the course of my duties, a considerable number of residents of varying ages, occupations and circumstances, and it has been brought home to me how very highly he was respected by all who had contact with him.

This year it has become necessary, for reasons of economy, to omit certain graphs and statistical tables. A very great amount of statistical information is included in Table I on page 8, and in the remaining tables, and it is hoped that all essential data can still be found without inconvenience.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

The death rates, both crude and corrected (corrected rates make allowance for the disproportionately large number of aged persons resident in the town) show little change compared with the last few years.

The birth-rate also shows little change since 1948. It is interesting to compare in Table I on page 8, the variations in crude birth-rates since 1900. In 1902 it was 22.5 per 1,000; in 1917 it was 12.5; in 1947 it was 18.2; and since then it has been reduced to around 11 per 1,000.

The infant mortality rate (deaths in infants during the first 12 months) also shows striking reductions. In 1900, when the population of Bognor was only 4,856, there were 14 infant deaths, whereas in 1956, there were 13 infant deaths, although the population was by then 25,710, which is over five times as great as the population in 1900. A large proportion of these deaths were "unavoidable" in that they occurred in infants with congenital abnormalities, or who were born prematurely and with little chance of survival.

It has recently been recognised by a consultant in diseases of children, Dr. Trevor Mann of Brighton, that children born in the colder winter months are liable to suffer from gradual lowering of the body temperature during the

first few weeks of life. The child's body temperature may fall from normal (98°-99°) to 85°, or even less, and, unless the condition is treated by specially trained staff, may well prove fatal. This condition, known as hypothermia, is particularly liable to occur in children born between January and March, when English houses are notoriously underheated, especially in the bedrooms. A very misleading feature of this condition is that the child often looks superficially healthy and pink of countenance, but fails to feed properly. Death may supervene quite unexpectedly in these children, with few symptoms other than some bronchitis and a most characteristic chilling of the trunk and limbs. Another misleading feature of the condition is the temperature recorded on the ordinary clinical thermometer used by doctors, nurses and parents. Such thermometers only record down to 95°, and may give a false sense of security by inferring that, as the child's temperature is "sub-normal" it cannot be in danger. If this danger were better known by parents, precautions could be taken to avoid unnecessary chilling of their infants. Personal knowledge of at least three such infant deaths during the past two years indicate that there is a very real danger. Dr. Trevor Mann has recently reported 14 cases with 8 deaths in his Brighton hospital, over a period of three years.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

A total of 453 cases of notifiable disease were reported during the year, compared with 250 in 1955. Of these 453 cases, measles accounted for 400, and whooping cough for 16.

### Poliomyelitis.

There were 2 cases of poliomyelitis (1 paralytic, 1 non-paralytic) during the year 1956.

After tuberculosis, this is perhaps the most feared infectious disease to-day. It is not fully realised that the majority of the population contract a "silent" form of the disease during childhood, unknown to themselves or their parents, and that this mild and transient illness may confer a lifelong immunity against the paralytic form of the disease.

Furthermore, it is not sufficiently appreciated that the disease is primarily an infection of the intestine, where the virus lives and multiplies for a considerable time, even in apparently fit and healthy persons. Such persons, unless they have a high standard of personal hygiene, can very easily infect the few non-immune people with whom they come into contact, especially if they handle foodstuffs with contaminated fingers.

It is indeed fortunate that most people contract the "silent" form of the disease, thereby developing immunity, because the national standard of personal hygiene, at least as far as hand-washing is concerned, is appallingly low.

It is interesting to note that the presence of tonsils plays a significant part in preventing the fatal form of the disease.

I am convinced that the poor personal hygiene of children and young persons at summer camps plays a very important part in the spread of polio myelitis. Poor washing facilities and poor enforcement of hand washing combined with absorbent toilet paper, builds up the number of symptomless excretors in the community.

## VIRUS DISEASES.

Tremendous advances have been made since the War in our knowledge of viruses. This knowledge has been accelerated by the use of the electron-microscope and by newly discovered methods of growing viruses in the laboratory, using such media as fertilised hens' eggs and human cancer cells.

This increased knowledge of virus behaviour now opens up a vast field for research into their effect on the population and the method of spread from person to person, and, of course, for work into the prevention and care of the disease they cause.

This gives the Public Health Service an opportunity to take up the challenge, as it did a century ago in combating bacterial diseases. Epidemic jaundice, poliomyelitis, virus pneumonia, virus encephalitis and meningitis, measles, chicken pox, and the many strains of the common cold represent only a small portion of the viruses pathogenic to man or domestic animals. Virus epidemiology is a fascinating field of work with an exciting and rewarding future for all Public Health workers. It will require, however, a far closer co-operation with the veterinary profession than occurs at present.

## TUBERCULOSIS.

Thirteen new cases of tuberculosis were discovered during 1956. Three persons died from the disease during the year.

The epidemiology and the control of this disease, unlike that of other infectious diseases, is outside the province of this department.

It is of interest to note that household pets, such as cats and dogs, may play a part in the epidemiology of tuberculosis, as both can suffer from the disease.

## HOUSING.

The total number of houses erected during 1956 were :—

Council houses	66
Private houses	157 (including 13 built by Housing Associations)

The total number of houses built since the war is :—

Council houses, flats, etc.	611
Private houses	844 (including 30 built by Housing Associations)

(See page 9 for rate of yearly construction).

The waiting list at 31.12.56, was 393.

It is realised that not all the persons on the waiting list are in urgent need of re-housing. Nevertheless, a number of cases of serious hardship remain, and it would seem that the prospect of improving the situation is badly handicapped on account of the removal of the subsidy on Council houses.

The number of houses constructed by the Council whilst the subsidy was available, as can be seen in Table I (page 9), has not proved sufficient. The two groups most in need are young married couples with children to bring up, and elderly persons.

Many young married couples to-day are anxious to buy their own houses instead of waiting their turn for Council houses. The cost-of-living, however, makes it impossible for the average family to save the amount required for the deposit and legal expenses. A weekly income of £8 to £10 leaves little over for saving towards the two, three or four hundred pounds required for the deposit on a private house. Some countries have faced this fact realistically by making initial grants to such couples, and if this policy were to be introduced in England, the housing situation could be materially improved at less cost to the authorities than by building and maintaining Council houses out of public funds.

Housing of old persons is becoming a more pressing problem each year. Some prefer to live with their married sons and daughters if there is room, but 3-bedroomed houses are not usually suitable. Others prefer bungalows, but sooner or later become unable to look after themselves, and require daily help and nursing, besides the provision of cooked meals. Although the housing subsidy has ceased, the problem of suitable housing for old persons remains to be solved.

## ACCIDENTS IN THE HOME.

Nearly all home accidents are avoidable, but it will require a vigorous national and local campaign to bring about a reduction in the annual number of deaths and injuries in the house and garden.

The common causes of accidental death in Great Britain during 1955, among the various age groups are shown in the following table:—

CAUSE OF DEATH	AGE GROUPS (YEARS)					SEX		TOTAL
	0-4	5-14	15-44	45-64	65 & over	M.	F.	
Falls	45	16	77	317	4215	1444	3226	4670
Poisoning	45	8	187	278	687	514	691	1205
Suffocation	601	9	45	50	54	462	297	759
Burns & Scalds	128	74	67	98	487	305	549	854
Miscellaneous	86	25	50	53	69	157	126	283
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>905</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>426</b>	<b>796</b>	<b>5512</b>	<b>2883</b>	<b>4888</b>	<b>7771</b>

It should be remembered, however, that this table takes no account of serious injuries not resulting in death. For example, 26,000 burning and scalding accidents are admitted to hospital every year.

It does not appear to be realised that children under 3 or 4 can, and do drown in ornamental ponds containing only a few inches depth of water. Pathologists and others who have close contact with such tragedies agree that uncovered ornamental ponds are a constant danger when children have access to them.

## FIRST AID STATION.

The details of the work carried out at the First Aid Station are shown on page 18 of the Report.

The excellent voluntary service rendered by the British Red Cross

Volunteers in the first aid treatment of casualties, and the caring for lost children during the summer months, cannot be too highly praised.

During the past five years 7,468 cases have been treated, and 717 lost children have been cared for until claimed by relatives or friends.

It is hoped that in the future a permanent larger Station can be provided.

## MORTUARY.

The new modern mortuary in London Road was completed by the end of the year and was brought into use at the beginning of January, 1957.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all members of the staff of the department for their assistance and co-operation.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen.

Your obedient Servant,

D. WARREN BROWNE,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

Year	Estimated Population Registrar General	Births			Deaths			Population Natural Increase or Decrease	Infant Mortality		Cancer Deaths	
		No.	Crude* Rate	Adjusted Rate†	No.	Crude* Rate	Adjusted Rate†		No.	Rate	No.	Rate
1900	4,856	81	16.6	—	73	15.0	—	8	14	172.8	x	x
1901	6,232	108	17.3	—	66	10.5	—	42	7	64.8	x	x
1902	6,439	145	22.5	—	80	12.4	—	65	14	96.5	x	x
1903	6,647	118	17.7	—	76	11.4	—	42	7	59.3	x	x
1904	6,854	137	19.9	—	82	11.9	—	55	17	124.0	x	x
1905	7,062	118	16.7	—	71	10.0	—	47	15	127.1	x	x
1906	7,269	131	18.0	—	66	9.0	—	65	11	83.9	x	x
1907	7,477	133	17.7	—	75	10.0	—	58	9	67.6	x	x
1908	7,685	121	15.7	—	69	8.9	—	52	10	82.6	x	x
1909	7,892	132	16.7	—	103	13.0	—	29	11	83.3	x	x
1910	8,100	130	16.0	—	82	10.1	—	48	7	53.8	10	1.23
1911	8,191	153	18.6	—	105	12.8	—	48	15	98.0	13	1.58
1912	8,387	133	15.8	—	110	13.0	—	23	16	120.0	10	1.19
1913	8,583	151	17.5	—	112	13.0	—	39	14	92.7	16	1.86
1914	8,779	165	18.7	—	122	13.8	—	43	13	78.7	13	1.48
1915	8,779	132	15.0	—	104	13.5	—	28	9	68.1	10	1.30
1916	8,348	121	14.6	—	92	12.0	—	29	3	24.7	12	1.43
1917	8,995	115	12.5	—	105	13.0	—	10	5	43.4	13	1.44
1918	9,299	123	13.2	—	121	14.5	—	2	.8	65.0	14	1.50
1919	9,738	122	13.9	—	107	11.5	—	15	6	49.1	13	1.48
1920	9,722	172	19.7	—	111	12.7	—	61	7	40.6	14	1.60
1921	11,490	131	11.4	—	112	9.7	—	19	9	68.7	19	1.65
1922	11,580	118	10.2	—	110	9.5	—	8	7	59.3	14	1.21
1923	11,670	109	9.3	—	101	8.6	—	8	7	64.2	13	1.11
1924	12,180	127	10.4	—	114	9.3	—	13	7	55.1	24	1.97
1925	12,800	174	13.6	—	117	9.1	—	57	6	34.5	14	1.00
1926	14,022	169	12.0	—	130	9.2	—	39	7	41.4	20	1.42
1927	14,800	169	11.4	—	130	8.8	—	39	10	59.2	16	1.08
1928	15,200	179	11.1	—	137	9.9	—	42	9	50.3	17	1.12
1929	14,360	164	11.4	—	163	11.3	—	1	4	24.4	27	1.88
1930	15,750	162	10.3	—	146	9.3	—	16	11	68.0	21	1.33
1931	12,600	168	13.3	—	149	11.8	9.7	19	5	30.0	26	2.06
1932	13,080	169	12.9	—	152	11.6	9.6	17	5	30.0	31	2.37
1933	17,530	202	12.3	—	202	12.3	10.2	0	13	64.0	35	2.13
1934	17,990	225	12.5	—	215	11.9	9.8	10	14	62.2	32	1.77
1935	18,440	226	12.3	—	224	12.1	10.0	2	9	39.8	37	2.00
1936	18,930	235	12.4	—	267	14.1	11.7	-32	10	42.6	57	3.01
1937	19,560	248	12.7	—	282	14.4	11.9	-34	11	44.4	40	2.04
1938	19,890	260	13.1	—	272	13.7	11.4	-12	14	53.8	27	1.36
1939	22,650	259	12.5	—	280	12.4	10.3	-21	6	22.1	43	1.86
1940	23,410	252	10.8	—	313	13.4	11.3	-61	8	31.7	40	1.07
1941	21,260	269	12.7	—	345	16.2	—	-76	11	40.9	56	2.62
1942	20,970	402	19.2	—	346	16.5	—	56	19	47.3	51	2.43
1943	19,950	387	19.4	—	335	16.8	—	52	21	54.3	62	3.11
1944	21,360	394	18.4	—	329	15.4	—	65	13	33.0	56	2.66
1945	22,590	351	15.5	—	342	15.1	—	9	12	34.2	42	1.86
1946	24,330	402	16.5	—	341	14.0	—	61	15	37.3	68	2.75
1947	25,090	458	18.2	—	339	13.5	—	119	11	24.0	61	2.41
1948	25,800	383	14.8	—	316	12.2	—	67	16	41.8	51	1.98
1949	25,530	334	13.1	—	361	14.1	10.4	-27	8	23.9	58	2.21
1950	25,550	302	11.8	12.8	374	14.6	10.8	-72	7	23.2	57	2.21
1951	25,000	271	10.8	11.6	410	16.4	11.9	-139	10	36.9	60	2.49
1952	24,860	308	12.4	13.3	382	15.4	11.2	-74	5	16.2	74	2.91
1953	24,790	297	12.0	12.8	360	14.5	10.6	-63	6	20.2	78	3.11
1954	25,050	301	12.0	14.4	392	15.6	10.5	-91	12	39.9	81	3.21
1955	25,370	285	11.2	13.5	401	15.8	10.6	-116	13	45.6	67	2.64
1956	25,710	205	11.5	13.8	301	15.2	10.0	-66	13	44.1	70	2.71

\*"Crude birth rates and death rates" show the number of births and deaths per 1,000 of the population.

†"Adjusted birth and death rates" are the "crude birth and death rates" as adjusted by the Area Comparability Factors for births and deaths, to allow for variation of age and sex constitution of the local population in relation to the average type of population, so that a true comparison can be made with the birth and death rates for the country as a whole, and also other local areas.

‡Population figure of 16,400 was used in calculating rates for 1933.

## STATISTICS 1900-1956

\*Non-assisted.

<sup>†</sup>To the total of this column have to be added the 39 houses taken over by this Authority upon the extension of boundaries in 1933, and the 10 houses in Hatherleigh Gardens purchased in 1945, making a grand total of 1916 (See page 28).

No cases of diphtheria were notified. (See page 14.)

NO cases of diphteria  
New Valuation List.

~~• New value  
not available~~

TABLE II

## Vital Statistics of Bognor Regis compared with the Vital Statistics of the County of West Sussex, 1956

Figures in brackets are the corresponding figures for 1955

		Urban Districts	Rural Districts	Adminis- trative County	Bognor Regis
Population estimated by Registrar-General		209,900 (174,100)	148,800* (173,600)	358,700 (347,700)	25,710 (25,370)
Number of Live Births	...	2,800 (2,036)	2,221 (2,645)	5,021 (4,681)	295 (285)
Birth Rate	...	13.34 (11.69)	14.92 (15.24)	14.00 (13.46)	11.47 (11.23)
Number of Deaths	...	3,088 (2,689)	2,050 (2,007)	5,138 (4,696)	391 (401)
Death Rate	...	14.71 (15.44)	13.78 (11.56)	14.32 (13.50)	15.21 (15.81)
Number of Deaths of Infants under one year	...	79 (48)	43 (51)	122 (99)	13 (13)
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	...	28 (24)	19 (19)	24 (21)	44 (46)
Number of Maternal Deaths	...	2 (—)	1 (1)	3 (1)	— (—)
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births		0.70 (—)	0.44 (0.37)	0.59 (0.20)	— (—)
Number of Deaths from Tuberculosis (Respiratory System)	...	12 (19)	9 (16)	21 (35)	2 (3)
Death Rate from Tuberculosis (Respiratory System)	...	0.06 (0.10)	0.06 (0.09)	0.06 (0.10)	0.08 (0.12)
Number of Deaths from Cancer	...	538 (477)	358 (362)	896 (839)	70 (67)
Death Rate from Cancer	...	2.56 (2.74)	2.40 (2.08)	2.50 (2.41)	2.72 (2.64)

\*The decrease in the population for the Rural Districts is due to the fact that Crawley Parish which was in the Rural District was made an Urban District on 1st April, 1956.

It will be noted that in the Urban Districts Deaths exceeded Births by 288, whilst in the Rural Districts Births exceeded Deaths by 171. In the Administrative County, as a whole, Deaths exceeded Births by 117.

## STATISTICS FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Birth Rate	...	...	15.7	(15.0)
Death Rate	...	...	11.7	(11.7)
Infant Mortality Rate	...		23.8	(24.9)

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

## 1.—General Statistics

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	(land) (foreshore)	2,695 352
Population (Census, 1921)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13,302
Population (Census, 1931)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13,521
Population (Census, 1951)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25,647
Registrar-General's Estimate of Resident Population (1956)						...	...	25,710
Number of inhabited houses (1921)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,237
Number of inhabited houses (1956)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,114
Number of families or separate occupiers (Census, 1921)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,525
Number of families or separate occupiers (Census, 1931)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,239
Number of families or separate occupiers (Census, 1951)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,839
Rateable value (April 1st, 1957)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£559,108
Estimated sum represented by a penny rate (April 1st, 1957)						...	...	£2,190

## 2.—Social Conditions and Occupations

The district is a residential one and essentially a seaside health resort. There are no large factories, and there are no occupations which have a definitely prejudicial effect on health, but several small and important industries have been established in the northern part of the town.

## 3.—Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year

<b>Births :—</b>		<i>Total</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Fem.</i>	<i>Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population</i>	...
<b>Live Births—</b>						
Legitimate		280	147	133		11.47
Illegitimate		15	10	5		
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>		
<i>Still Births—</i>		295	157	138		
Legitimate		10	2	8	<i>Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births) births</i>	
Illegitimate		—	—	—	...	...
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>		
<i>Deaths :—</i>		10	2	8		
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>		
<b>Deaths :—</b>		391	175	216	<i>Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated Resident Population</i>	...
						15.21
Total number of deaths occurring in Public Institutions		...	...	...		210
(Percentage of total deaths, 53.7)						
Deaths from diseases and accidents of pregnancy and childbirth :—						
From Sepsis		...	...	...	...	...
From other causes		...	...	...	...	Nil
Number of deaths of infants under 1 year of age		...	...	...	...	13
Death rate of infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births		...	...	...	...	44.07
There were 280 legitimate children born and 12 deaths, therefore the death rate per 1,000 is		...	...	...	...	42.86
There were 15 illegitimate children born and 1 death, therefore the death rate per 1,000 is		...	...	...	...	66.67
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)		...	...	...	...	70
Deaths from Measles (all ages)		...	...	...	...	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)		...	...	...	...	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years of age)		...	...	...	...	Nil

TABLE III

Deaths Registered during the year 1956, classified by age and cause

Causes of Death	Column 1	Net Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District										MALES	FEMALES	
		All Ages	Under 1 year	1-4	5-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65-74	75 and upwards	11	12		
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10					
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	—	—	—
2. Tuberculosis, other	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic disease	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
4. Diphtheria	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Acute poliomyelitis	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. Measles	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic disease	...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	—	—
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	2	5	5	2	—
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	17	—	—	—	—	—	7	7	3	13	4	—	—
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	2	—	7	—	2
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	2
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	35	—	—	—	—	—	6	17	12	15	20	—	—
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—
16. Diabetes	...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	—
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	56	—	—	—	—	—	4	16	36	15	41	—	—
18. Coronary disease, angina	...	61	—	—	—	—	—	1	14	19	27	39	22	—
19. Hypertension with heart disease	...	8	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	5	2	4	4	—
20. Other heart disease	...	69	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	13	51	26	43	—
21. Other circulatory disease	...	24	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	4	18	8	16	—
22. Influenza	...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	2	—
23. Pneumonia	...	17	2	—	—	—	—	1	3	1	10	11	6	—
24. Bronchitis	...	11	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	5	4	7	—
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	—
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	1	—
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	1	—
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	2
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	2	—
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
31. Congenital malformations	...	6	4	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	3	3	3
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	35	6	—	—	—	—	1	2	4	6	16	13	22
33. Motor vehicle accidents	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
34. All other accidents	...	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	2	2	2
35. Suicide	...	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	1	—	2	4	—
36. Homicide and operations of war	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	...	391	13	1	—	2	9	65	98	203	175	216		

The principal causes of death from 1947 to 1956 inclusive are shown in the following table:—

	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	9	10	9	11	6	4	2	4	3	2
Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	2	1	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	1
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	12	15	17	8	8	17	17	12	17	17
Bronchitis and other diseases of the respiratory system ... ...	19	7	13	20	30	16	21	7	17	13
Diseases of heart and blood vessels ... ...	106	112	135	150	79	136	129	150	155	162
Intra-cranial vascular lesions ...	56	39	48	58	49	59	46	57	61	56
Cancer ... ...	61	51	58	57	60	74	78	81	67	70

The causes of deaths of children under one year for the last ten years are as follows:—

Causes of Infant Deaths	Deaths of Infants under one year of age									
	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
Whooping Cough ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diarrhoeal Diseases ...	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis and Pneumonia ...	1	4	1	2	1	—	2	—	1	3
Tubercular diseases ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Convulsions ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Premature birth ...	6	7	1	—	6	4	2	4	5	5
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Atelectasis ...	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	1	—	1
Intestinal Obstruction ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Asphyxia ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Injury at birth ...	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Congenital malformations ...	—	—	2	2	1	—	1	—	6	4
Congenital Syphilis ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	4
All other causes ...	2	—	1	2	1	—	1	1	—	—
TOTAL—all causes ...	11	16	8	7	10	5	6	12	13	13

TABLE IV

Infant Mortality 1956

Net deaths from causes at various ages under one year

Causes of Death	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 1 mth.	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total Deaths under 1 year
Prematurity ...	4	1	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	5
Atelectasis ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Congenital Malformation ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	—	4
Pneumonia ...	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	2
Bronchitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
ALL CAUSES ...	5	—	1	—	7	2	2	1	1	13

Net births in the year (Legitimate 280, Illegitimate 15) : 295.

Net deaths under one year of age (Legitimate 12, Illegitimate 1) : 13.

**TABLE V**  
**NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES**

The following are details of cases (other than Tuberculosis) notified during 1956 showing in the age analysis columns the final figures after any necessary re-diagnosis:—

Disease	Originally Notified	AGE ANALYSIS (after any necessary correction of diagnosis)										Cases removed to Hospital
		Under 1	1 to 2	3 to 4	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 to 24	25 to 44	45 to 64	65 plus	Total	
		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Scarlet Fever ...	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	1
Diphtheria ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	16	1	3	5	6	—	—	1	—	—	16	—
Measles ...	402	6	78	117	194	4	1	—	—	—	400	9
Pneumonia ...	5	—	—	—	1	—	9	2	1	5	2	—
Erysipelas ...	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	4	—	—
Poliomyelitis—												
Paralytic ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
Poliomyelitis—												
Non-Paralytic	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
Acute Encephalitis												
Infective ... ...	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
Dysentery ... ...	19	—	2	—	4	2	—	2	—	—	10	1
<b>TOTAL ... ...</b>	<b>453</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>440</b>	<b>14</b>

## SECTION II.

### PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

#### Poliomyelitis.

Two confirmed cases of Acute Poliomyelitis (one paralytic and one non-paralytic) were notified during 1956. There were no deaths from this disease.

Investigations are made immediately notifications are received and a full report of each case is sent to the County Medical Officer of Health.

Medical Practitioners within the Urban District are kept fully informed of all cases of 'poliomyelitis' occurring in Bognor Regis.

#### Dysentery.

Between the 8th November, 1955 and the 28th January, 1956, a total of 39 (11 adults and 28 children) notifications of Sonne Dysentery were received, of which 35 (10 adults and 25 children) proved to be confirmed cases.

A total of 131 (36 adults and 95 children) were kept under surveillance as cases, carriers, or contacts. Six adults were excluded from employment and 27 children excluded from school.

In all, 445 stool specimens were collected and forwarded to the Public Health Laboratory, Portsmouth, for bacteriological examination, of which 125 were found to contain organisms causing Sonne Dysentery, and 320 showed negative results. Three consecutive negative results were obtained before 1 case was declared to be free from infection.

A further 9 confirmed cases of Sonne Dysentery were notified between 10th December, 1956, and the end of the year, all of whom were children associated either directly or indirectly with one particular Primary School. Further cases occurred at the beginning of 1957, and a full report of this outbreak will be given in the Annual Report for 1957.

### FOOD POISONING

In accordance with the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 (Section 17) and the Bognor Regis Urban District Council Act, 1936 (Section 88) every registered medical practitioner attending a person in the district who is or is suspected to be suffering from **Food Poisoning** or **Suspected Food Poisoning** shall forthwith on becoming aware that such a person is or is suspected to be so suffering send to the Medical Officer a notification of the case.

The following are the details of the cases notified which were confirmed during 1956:—

No. of Outbreak	No. of Cases	No. of Deaths	Organisms or other agents responsible	Foods causing Outbreak
—	5 (family)	Nil	None isolated	No particular food suspected
—	2	Nil	None isolated	Cockles collected from beach suspected
—	1	Nil	Salmonella-typhi-murium	No particular food suspected
—	4	Nil	None isolated	Not known

### TUBERCULOSIS

The Ministry of Health in a circular issued during 1954 drew attention to the fact that although there has been a rapid decline in the death rate from tuberculosis in recent years (shown in respect of Bognor Regis and England and Wales in the Table on page 17), this has not been accompanied by a comparable reduction in the number of notifications of new cases of the disease.

It is, however, felt by the Ministry, that the number of notifications now bears a closer relationship to the incidence of the disease, mainly because cases which were formerly undiagnosed and therefore not notified, are now being brought to light.

In Bognor Regis in 1956, the number of new notifications received was 13, showing an increase on the year 1955, when there were 11, and a decrease on the year 1954, when there were 15, but in some areas control and preventive measures present a considerable problem, and the demands made on Mass X-Ray Units have meant that surveys cannot be undertaken as often as could be desired. In the post-war period it has only been possible for one Mass Radiography survey to be carried out in this area (in April, 1952) but a return visit of a mobile unit was arranged to take place in January, 1957.

Home conditions of course, also play an important part in the treatment and rehabilitation of patients suffering from tuberculosis, and I am indebted to the Council for their sympathetic consideration of my recommendations on health grounds in respect of applicants for Council houses, who were living in unsatisfactory housing accommodation.

### Additions to Register.

Thirteen cases, i.e., cases notified for the first time (compared with 11 in 1955) and 10 cases transferred from other districts as the patients came to live in Bognor Regis (compared with 14 in 1955) were added to the Register during 1956 as shown below.

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	Males	Females	Males	Females	
New cases ... ... ...	6	6	1	—	13
Cases transferred from other districts ... ... ...	3	6	—	1	10
Cases restored to Register ...	2	3	—	—	5
<b>TOTALS</b> ... ... ...	<b>11</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>28</b>

### Removals from Register

Thirty cases were removed from the Register during 1956, as follows:

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	Males	Females	Males	Females	
Cases transferred to other districts ... ... ...	8	10	—	—	18
Deaths ... ... ...	4	3	1	—	8
Lost sight of (i.e. changing address etc.) ... ... ...	—	1	1	—	2
Recovered ... ... ...	—	1	1	—	2
Non-tuberculous ... ... ...	—	—	—	—	—
<b>TOTALS</b> ... ... ...	<b>12</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>30</b>

### Cases on Register.

### Tuberculosis Cases on the Register 31st December, 1956

Ward	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Total
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	
Central ... ... ...	11	14	25	—	1	1	26
East ... ... ...	9	11	20	5	1	6	26
Felpham ... ... ...	10	6	16	—	1	1	17
North ... ... ...	26	19	45	1	1	2	47
West ... ... ...	14	12	26	3	5	8	34
<b>TOTALS</b> ... ... ...	<b>70</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>150</b>

The following statement shows the mortality from tuberculosis (pulmonary and non-pulmonary) in Bognor Regis and in England and Wales during the last ten years :—

Year	Deaths	Death Rate per 1,000 of the population	
		Bognor Regis	England and Wales
1947	11	0.438	0.549
1948	11	0.426	0.507
1949	9	0.35	0.45
1950	11	0.43	0.36
1951	7	0.28	0.31
1952	4	0.16	0.24
1953	3	0.12	0.20
1954	5	0.20	0.18
1955	3	0.12	0.15
1956	3	0.12	0.12

#### **Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.**

These regulations prohibit any one who is aware that he is suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis from being employed in connection with a dairy in any manner likely to create danger of infection of the milk. No action was necessary during 1956.

#### **Public Health Act, 1936 (Section 172).**

This Section relates to the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis. No action was found necessary during the year.

#### **Bognor Regis Urban District Council Act, 1936.**

This statute gives the Council new power on the recommendation of the Medical Officer of Health, to prohibit persons in an advanced state of tuberculosis from cooking, preparing, or otherwise handling food. No action was found necessary during the year.

### SECTION III.

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

### 1. PERSONS IN NEED OF CARE AND ATTENTION.

It was not found necessary for statutory action to be taken under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, for the removal to suitable premises of any persons in need of care and attention, but informal action was taken in respect of 13 persons.

### 2. BURIAL OR CREMATION OF THE DEAD.

During 1956, arrangements were made under Section 50 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, for the funeral and burial of the body of 3 persons who died in this district, and in circumstances where it appeared that no suitable arrangements had been or were being made otherwise than by the Local Authority.

### 3. FIRST AID STATION.

A report of the work of the British Red Cross Society at the First Aid Station, situated in Waterloo Square, was submitted to the Public Health Committee in October, 1956. The Officer-in-Charge was Miss M. R. Newton (Commandant, Sussex 88, British Red Cross Society). She was assisted by Volunteers from local Detachments of the British Red Cross Society including British Red Cross Cadets.

The First Aid Station was open from the 19th May to 16th September, 1956. First Aid was rendered to 1,470 persons and 84 lost children were cared for.

I wish to place on record the invaluable service carried out by Miss Newton and the other volunteers. In addition the Red Cross Cadets assisted in looking after lost children who were cared for and entertained in the room for lost children. It would be difficult to estimate the value of the First Aid Station to the residents and visitors, as it is open for the whole of the season from early in the morning until late in the evening, and the duties are carried out in a most efficient manner. It is felt that this voluntary service is fully appreciated by visitors to the town.

The Ambulances manned by personnel of the local Ambulance and Nursing Division of St. John Ambulance Brigade have carried out excellent work by their invaluable co-operation.

### 4. MATERNITY AND NURSING HOMES.

There are four registered Nursing Homes, which are under the supervision of the County Council Officers. One of these Nursing Homes will also admit convalescent cases. There are no Maternity Homes in Bognor Regis.

### 5. BOGNOR REGIS AND DISTRICT CHILDREN'S CARE FUND.

The Children's Care Fund was inaugurated in 1932 by Dr. H. M. Ayres, to assist necessitous cases among the children living in Bognor Regis, and is entirely supported by voluntary contributions.

Assistance has been given where parents were advised by their own doctor that a child should have a change of surroundings after a serious illness and they were too poor to meet this expenditure. Where they had relatives living some distance away to whom the child could be sent, the fares were paid.

In necessitous cases, boots and clothing have been provided.

The Committee have been indebted to supporters of the Fund for gifts of left-off clothing and toys which are distributed to those less fortunate children.

## 6. LEGISLATION IN FORCE.

List of Local Acts, Byelaws and Regulations in force in the District and relating to the public health :—

### ACTS—

Bognor Urban District Council Act, 1928: Parts V, VI and X (certain sections).

Bognor Regis Urban District Council Act, 1936: Parts IV, V, VI, IX, XI (certain sections).

BYE-LAWS—	<i>With respect to</i>	<i>Date of Confirmation</i>
1. Drainage of Existing Buildings	...	November, 1912
2. Slaughterhouses	...	August, 1935
3. Cleansing of Footways and Pavements, Nuisances and the Removal or carriage of Faecal, or Offensive or Noxious Matter or Liquid	...	September, 1925
4. New Streets and Buildings*	...	October 1925 & July 1934
*Repealed by the Building Byelaws (November, 1939) except in so far as they relate to new streets.		
5. Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc., used for human habitation	...	September, 1925
6. Houses Let in Lodgings	...	September, 1925
7. Management of a Mortuary	...	September, 1925
8. Lavatories and Sanitary Conveniences	...	July, 1927
9. Tipping of Dust, Spoil and Refuse	...	September, 1937
10. Prevention of Discharge of Slop Water into Gullies	...	March, 1937
11. Pleasure Fairs	...	April, 1939
12. Camping Grounds	...	November, 1954
13. Building	...	March 1954
14. Offensive Trades	...	June, 1947
15. Handling, Wrapping, and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air	...	August, 1950
16. For Preventing Waste, Undue Consumption, or Contamination of Water	...	September, 1956

## HOSPITAL FACILITIES.

Bognor Regis is situated in the area administered by the South West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board, and the General Hospitals and the Chichester Infectious Disease Hospital which serve the town, form part of a group of eight hospitals, managed by the Chichester Group Hospital Management Committee.

The Graylingwell Mental Hospital has its own Hospital Management Committee.

Details of the Hospitals serving the Bognor Regis area are as follows :—

### (a) General Hospitals.

- (i) *Bognor Regis War Memorial Hospital.*  
(Accommodation 32 beds)
- (ii) *Royal West Sussex Hospital, Broyle Road, Chichester.*  
(Accommodation 202 beds.)
- (iii) *St. Richard's Hospital, Spitalfield Lane, Chichester.*  
(Accommodation 375 beds.)

(b) Mental Hospitals.

*Graylingwell Hospital, College Lane, Chichester.*

(Accommodation 1066 beds.)

*Summersdale Hospital, Chichester.*

(Accommodation, 141 beds).

*The Acre, Worthing.*

(Accommodation 20 beds).

Arrangements have been made at Graylingwell Mental Hospital for the treatment of out-patients. Psychiatric Out-Patients' Clinics are held as follows :—

Royal West Sussex Hospital

Chichester     ...     ...     Thursdays, 2.0 p.m.

Horsham Hospital     ...     ...     Mondays, 2.30 p.m.

Worthing Hospital     ...     ...     Tuesdays, 2.30 p.m.

(c) Infectious Disease Hospitals.

(i) *Chichester Infectious Disease Hospital, Spitalfield Lane, Chichester*  
(Accommodation 12 beds and 4 cots.)

(ii) *Joyce Green Hospital, Dartford, Kent.*

This hospital will receive cases of Smallpox from Bognor Regis, and arrangements for admission of cases have to be made by the County Medical Officer.

The services of a Consultant in Smallpox may be obtained on application to the County Medical Officer.

(d) Tuberculosis.

There is a Sanatorium for the treatment of Pulmonary cases at Aldingbourne House, Aldingbourne, Nr. Chichester, with accommodation for 71 persons, and an Annexe to this Sanatorium is situated in Hawthorn Road, Bognor Regis, where there are 49 beds.

Cases of Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis are referred to the South West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board, who arrange admission to an appropriate hospital.

Cases for thoracic surgery are received at King Edward VII Sanatorium, Midhurst, and St. Richard's Hospital, Chichester.

(e) Venereal Diseases.

Residents in the county may attend the following clinics :—

*Chichester*

St. Richard's Hospital.

*Men and Women* : Wednesdays, 6 to 7 p.m.

*Portsmouth*

St. Mary's Hospital (Ward C2)

*Men*: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 12 noon, and 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

*Women*: Mondays, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.; Wednesdays, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.; Fridays, 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

*Worthing*

The Hospital, Lyndhurst Road.

*Men*: Wednesdays, 4 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.  
Fridays, 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.

*Women*: Wednesdays, 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.; Fridays, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

# SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

## 1.—MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

### (a) Expectant and Nursing Mothers.

*Ante-natal and post-natal clinics* are held three times per month on Wednesdays at 2.30 p.m. at the Health Centre, Westloats Lane, Bognor Regis, and also monthly on Wednesdays at 2.30 p.m. at the Methodist Hall, Felpham.

At these clinics expectant mothers receive advice from the doctors or nurses in attendance on all matters concerning their pregnancy, or on any ensuing complications which may arise.

Maternity outfits are available free of cost at ante-natal clinics.

A staff of qualified midwives is employed by the County Council, and they give any necessary advice and care.

Any cases where medical practitioners consider hospital treatment advisable, the medical practitioners arrange with the Hospital Management Committee for the admission of the patients. Arrangements for admission to hospital in other cases, e.g., on the grounds of unsatisfactory home conditions are referred to the County Council for investigation.

Expectant and nursing mothers may obtain dental supervision and treatment free of cost on application to the ante-natal clinic, District Midwife or Health Visitor.

### (b) Young Children.

*Child Welfare Centres* are held at the Health Centre, Westloats Lane, Bognor Regis, on Mondays and Thursdays of each week at 2.30 p.m., on Tuesdays at 2.30 p.m. at Welfare House, Rose Green Road, Aldwick, Bognor Regis, and at the Methodist Hall, Felpham, every Friday at 2.30 p.m., where advice is given by doctors or health visitors in attendance on matters of health, infant feeding, management of babies and toddlers.

*Toddlers' Clinics* are also held at the Health Centre every Wednesday at 10 a.m. when children between 1 and 5 years may, by appointment, be given a complete check up.

Arrangements have been made for the provision of National Dried Milk, Vitamins, etc., and a number of proprietary baby foods at cost or reduced prices to user are available on medical advice.

In addition, four Health Visitors, who are also School Nurses, give advice on the health and upbringing of young children, and also the preservation of health, precautions to be taken against spread of infection, and on most aspects of social welfare work.

The County Council arrange, whenever necessary, with the Hospital Management Committee for the admission of children under the age of twelve months to hospital.

The following statistics show the attendances, etc., at the ante-natal and post-natal clinics and infant welfare centres during 1956:—

			Bognor	Felpham	Aldwick	Total
(a)	<i>Ante-Natal Clinic</i>					
	Number of expectant mothers who attended clinic	...	251	24	—	275
	Number of attendances made	...	764	66	—	830
(b)	<i>Post-Natal Clinic</i>					
	Number of mothers who attended clinic		97	5	—	102
	Number of attendances made	...	111	5	—	116
(c)	<i>Infant Welfare Centre.</i>					
	Number of children under 5 years of age who attended	...	454	165	112	731
	Number of attendances made	...	3,281	823	670	4,774

### Maternal Mortality.

There were no deaths during the year from puerperal causes.

## 2. SCHOOL CLINIC.

A modern Health Centre in Westloats Lane in close proximity to the Schools provides accommodation for the Minor Ailments, Nutrition, Dental, Ophthalmic, Orthopaedic and Speech clinics.

A *Minor Ailments Clinic* is held at the Health Centre, Westloats Lane, Bognor Regis, on Tuesday mornings, when your Medical Officer of Health is in attendance. During the year 290 children attended the clinic, making 658 attendances.

Appointments are made with an Ophthalmic Surgeon for children suffering from defective vision, and arrangements are made where necessary with the War Memorial Hospital for the operative treatment of tonsils and adenoids.

A *Nutrition Clinic* is held at the Westloats Lane Health Centre fortnightly by your Medical Officer of Health, where mothers are advised regarding the health of children suffering from malnutrition. Vitamin C and Adexolin tablets are available for such children. During the year 20 children attended the clinic, making 35 attendances.

A *Dental Clinic* is held frequently for the treatment of children with defective teeth.

Arrangements are also made for the treatment of children suffering from crippling defects, ear defects, and speech defects.

## Health Education.

Every effort is made, either by posters or leaflets distributed in the area, to secure a wider use of the Health Services, and it is found in this area that the best propaganda is carried out at the Health Centre by intimate talks with the parents, and it will be appreciated that, with the large numbers attending, such talks can be highly successful.

During the year your Medical Officer of Health gave lectures on health matters to various Organisations in the town.

## 3. HOME NURSING.

Since the 5th July, 1948, the duty of providing a domiciliary nursing service has been the responsibility of the West Sussex County Council, and there are five general nurses serving the Bognor Regis area. The services of a general nurse are provided, on the recommendation of a doctor, to any home requiring such service, on application to the general nurse concerned.

## 4. PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER-CARE.

### (a) Tuberculosis.

The responsibility of providing a tuberculosis consultant and treatment service was transferred to the Regional Hospital Board as from 5th July, 1948, but the County Council still maintains a domiciliary tuberculosis service. The County Council has made arrangements with the Sussex Rural Community Council for the care and after-care of tuberculosis patients. Cases referred to them by the Chest Physicians are visited by their organisers or representatives, and help of various kinds is given, e.g., supplying beds, bedding, clothes, extra nourishment, domestic help in the house, and the boarding-out of child contacts.

A Chest Clinic is held at the Aldingbourne Sanatorium, near Chichester, every Tuesday morning, and is available for patients residing in Bognor Regis. An additional Clinic for Contacts only is held on the afternoon of the first Friday in each month.

### (b) Patients discharged from Hospital.

Two Care Almoners were appointed in January, 1950, to conduct a domiciliary welfare service in the County area.

### (c) Provision of Nursing Equipment.

A limited supply of medical and nursing requisites provided by District Nursing Associations, stored in the homes of the nurses, is loaned to patients at the discretion of the nurses, either free or at a small charge. This service is supplemented by certain depots of the St. John Ambulance Brigade and British Red Cross Society.

The County Council also supplies a limited number of Dunlopillo Mattresses, special beds for paraplegics, etc.

### 5. HOME HELP SERVICE.

The Women's Voluntary Service, acting as agents for the County Council, have undertaken the organisation of the Home Help Service. When the supply of Home Helps permits, assistance is given to households where there are, for instance, cases of maternity, illness, young children (mother being absent or ill), aged or infirm persons, etc. Applications, accompanied by the recommendation of a doctor, nurse or midwife, are made to the W.V.S. Centre Organiser in the town. A charge for the services of a Home Help is made according to the means of the user.

### 6. IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

Sessional arrangements are made for immunisation to be carried out at schools and at the Health Centre as may be necessary. In addition, immunisation is carried out by General Practitioners at their surgeries under an arrangement made by the County Council.

During 1956, 261 children of all ages were immunised against diphtheria.

The number of pre-school children immunised was 240 and the number of school children 21. In addition 247 children had secondary re-inforcing injections.

Figures of previous immunisation carried out in this district are given below:—

Year	AGES							Total
	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5 to 9	10 to 14 and over	
1927	—	—	1	1	—	39	33	74
1936-7	—	22	31	32	53	477	233	848
1938	—	1	3	2	4	53	37	100
1940	—	—	2	3	2	8	1	16
1941	—	33	150	125	119	953	780	2,160
1942	—	158	119	95	85	372	199	1,028
1943	—	152	61	48	45	149	68	523
1944	—	183	49	27	14	74	30	377
1945	—	189	61	17	18	47	20	352
1946	—	189	48	17	7	30	6	297
1947	—	121	45	8	6	25	8	213
1948	9	265	38	6	9	30	11	368
1949	14	173	21	7	11	45	6	277
1950	26	235	77	19	7	33	6	403
1951	35	136	47	8	3	23	9	261
1952	49	159	15	6	6	22	12	269
1953	46	156	21	4	5	13	—	245
1954	66	165	71	7	11	46	6	372
1955	82	157	19	17	6	36	7	324
1956	132	94	9	5	—	21	—	261
<b>Totals</b>	<b>459</b>	<b>2,588</b>	<b>888</b>	<b>454</b>	<b>411</b>	<b>2,496</b>	<b>1,472</b>	<b>8,768</b>

It is interesting to note the significant fact that for the tenth successive year no cases of diphtheria were notified during 1956 (See page 14).

National statistics for diphtheria since 1940 are given below.

They reveal the success of the Diphtheria Prophylaxis scheme. Both the number of cases and the number of deaths were the lowest ever recorded.

For the ten-year period 1931-1940 the average number of original notifications was about 55,300 per annum in England and Wales.

### DIPHTHERIA (England and Wales).

Year	Deaths	Cases
1940	2,480	46,281
1941	2,641	50,797
1942	1,827	41,404
1943	1,371	34,662
1944	934	23,199
1945	722	18,596
1946	472	11,986
1947	244	5,609
1948	156	3,575
1949	84	1,890
1950	49	962
1951	33	664
1952	32	376
1953	23	266
1954	9	173
1955	13*	155
1956	8*	51*

\*Provisional figure.

## 7. VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX.

The earlier Vaccination Acts were repealed by the National Health Service Act, 1946, and vaccination against smallpox is now on a voluntary basis. General Practitioners now carry out vaccination against smallpox as part of their service with the Executive Council under the National Health Service Act.

## 8. AMBULANCE SERVICE AND HOSPITAL CAR SERVICE.

The St. John Ambulance Brigade acting as agents for the County Council operate the Ambulance and Hospital Car Service.

The Hospital Car Service is primarily intended for persons who have an appointment at a Hospital, Clinic, etc., and are unfit to travel by public transport.

## 9. MENTAL ILLNESS.

A comprehensive mental health service is provided partly by the Regional Hospital Board and partly by the County Council. Arrangements for the admission of voluntary cases to hospital or for their examination at the Out-Patient Department of a hospital will be made by the patient's doctor, whose advice should be sought.

## 10. MENTAL DEFICIENCY.

Institutional treatment is provided by the Regional Hospital Board but a domiciliary Welfare service is provided by the County Council.

## SECTION IV

### HOUSING

The following table shows the different types of Council houses erected to date in the different areas or to be erected.

SITUATION	Built prior to 1956			Built during 1956			Under construction 31/12/56			In prospect		
	Parlour	Non-Parlour	Dining-Kitchen	Parlour	Dining-Kitchen	Flats	Parlour	Dining-Kitchen	Flats	Parlour	Dining-Kitchen	Flats
1. Ockley Road ...	2	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
2. Hawthorn Road ...	16	3	-	-	-	19	-	-	-	-	-	-
3. Gravits Lane ...	1	55	-	18	74	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4. Mons Avenue ...	-	51	-	-	51	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5. Collyer Avenue ...	27	128	-	-	155	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6. Hampshire Avenue ...	41	32	-	-	73	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7. Westloats Lane ...	5	11	-	-	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8. Westloats Gardens ...	-	18	-	-	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9. Flansham Lane ...	34	-	-	-	34	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10. Felpham Way ...	5	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11. Hatherleigh Gardens and Close ...	*11	-	67	-	78	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
12. Arun Road ...	45	-	-	-	45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
13. Pevensey Road ...	12	-	-	24	36	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
14. Frith Road ...	20	-	-	-	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15. Rodney Close ...	-	-	‡13	-	‡13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16. Arnhem Road ...	10	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
17. Greynville Close ...	-	-	‡8	16	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
18. Frobisher Road ...	19	-	‡4	-	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
19. Anson Road ...	13	-	-	-	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20. Raleigh Road ...	30	-	-	-	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
21. Middleton Road ...	5	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
22. Pennyfields ...	-	-	26	-	26	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
23. Orchard Way ...	6	-	64	28	98	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
24. Corbishley Road ...	20	-	18	-	38	-	-	-	-	-	-	36
25. Ash Grove ...	-	-	28	-	28	-	42	-	42	-	4	-
26. Chestnut Grove ...	4	-	28	‡20	52	-	24	-	24	-	-	-
27. Oak Grove ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18	-	18	26
<b>TOTALS ...</b>	<b>326</b>	<b>298</b>	<b>256</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>986</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>-</b>
												<b>62</b>
												<b>62</b>

\* 10 purchased in 1945

‡ Bungalows

I am indebted to Miss T. H. Humphries, the Housing Manager, for the following table which indicates the demand for appropriate housing accommodation:—

Year ended 31st December	Total number of applicants on waiting list (including new ap- plications shown in next columns)	New applications received from		
		Residents	Non- residents	Total
1934	113	56	10	66
1935	74	49	9	58
1936	118	95	10	105
1937	68	127	12	139
1938	56	77	3	80
1939	76	58	2	60
1940	11	48	4	52
1941	46	65	3	68
1942	42	55	1	56
1943	69	64	2	66
1944	128	61	2	63
1945	658	490	64	554
1946	843	318	32	350
1947	716	315	35	350
1948	645	186	31	217
1949	677	210	34	244
1950	596	151	23	174
1951	522	157	10	167
1952	530	180	14	194
1953	615	165	11	176
1954	512	160	9	169
1955	433	122	12	134
1956	393	103	7	110

N.B.— "Residents" are persons who are residing within the urban district boundary at the time of their application. "Non-Residents" are all others.

In June, 1957, following re-registration, the total number on the waiting list had decreased to 348.

The following is detailed information of inspections carried out by the Chief Public Health Inspector, and the Additional Public Health Inspector.

#### Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year.

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	243
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	804
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ...	Nil
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	Nil
(3)	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	1
(4)	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	119

#### Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority, or their officers (pre-1956 notices, 42; 1956 notices, 88) ... 130

Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

A. Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	...	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—				
(a) By owner	...	...	...	Nil
(b) By local authority in default of owners	...	Nil		

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	1		
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—				
(a) By owners	...	...	...	Nil
(b) By local authority in default of owners	...	1		

C. Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 and Section 10 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953 :—

One house was represented and an undertaking given by the owner to carry out such works as were necessary to render the house fit for human habitation.

D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—Nil.

The following table shows a complete Schedule of Housing up to 31st December, 1956:—

Particulars with regard to Houses erected, in course of erection, and proposed to be erected by this Council.

YEAR	Act	Housing Schedule																		TOTALS													
		Ockley Road	Hawthorn Rd.	Gravits Lane	Mons Avenue	Collyer Avenue	Hampshire Avenue	Westloats Lane	Westloats Gns.	Flansham Lane	Felpham Way	Hatherleigh Gardens and Close	Arun Road	Pevensey Road	Frith Road	Rodney Close	Arnhem Road	Greynville Close	Frobisher Rd.	Anson Road	Raleigh Road	Middleton Road	Pennyfields	Orchard Way	Corbissley Rd.	Ash Grove	Chestnut Grove	Oak Grove	Non-assisted	ACTS			
Houses completed before 1st April, 1925	... Non-Ass'd <sup>a</sup>	2a	13a	28b	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	43	—	43				
1st April, 1925	... 1919	—	3b	19b	51b	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	78	—	78				
1st April, 1925	... 1923	—	—	8b	—	24b	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	32	—	32				
1st April, 1925	... 1923	—	—	—	—	44 { 42b	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	44	—	44				
Year, 1925-6	... 1923	—	—	—	—	2a	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	44				
Year 1926-7	... 1923	—	—	—	—	24 { 12b	8 { 6b	—	—	34a	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	66	—	66			
Year 1927-8	... 1923	—	—	—	—	5a	35 { 10b	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	40	—	40			
Year 1928-9	... 1923	—	—	18c	—	6a	20 { 16b	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	44	—	44			
Year 1929-30	... 1923	—	—	—	—	8a	11b	18b	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	37	—	37			
Years 1930-56	... 1925 & 1936	3a	1a	—	52 { 50b	2a	5a	—	—	68 { 67d	45a	36 { 12a	20a	13e	10a	24 { 16c	8e	23 { 19a	13a	30a	5a	26d	98 { 6a	38 { 28c	70d	76 { 4a	50608658						
Houses in course of erection at 31st Dec., 1956	1936	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	22				
In prospect at 31st December, 1956	1936	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	62					
<b>a Parlour</b>	...	2	19	74	51	155	73	16	18	34	5	68	45	36	20	13	10	24	23	13	30	5	26	98	74	74	76	44	43	78	263	50692117	
<b>b Non-Parlour</b>	...	—	2	16	1	—	27	41	5	—	34	5	1	45	12	20	—	10	—	19	13	30	5	—	6	20	—	4	—	15	5	98	19830
<b>c Flats</b>	...	—	—	3	55	51	128	32	11	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	28	73	147	50	—29	
<b>d Dining-Kitchen</b>	...	—	—	—	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	24	—	—	—	16	—	—	—	—	—	28	—	—	—	—	18	68			
<b>e Bungalows</b>	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	67	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	—	8	4	—	—	—	—	20	—	—	45		

\*To this total must be added the 10 houses purchased in 1945 in Hatherleigh Gardens. The prospective total of Council houses therefore, becomes 1139.

## SECTION V.

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

#### Food Poisoning.

In spite of the large number of period and daily visitors entering the town, only 12 cases of food poisoning were notified during 1956. (See page 15)

Although the number of cases occurring in the town was so small, it should be remembered that with the change in the eating habits of the public since 1939, and the marked trend towards communal feeding involving the greater increased use of processed, reheated and made-up food dishes, danger from outbreaks of food poisoning throughout the country has increased to an alarming extent.

The number of cases notified in England and Wales doubled between 1951, when there were 5,797 cases, and 1956, when there were 11,017 cases. Hence it is stressed that great care should be exercised at all times by everyone involved in the handling, preparation and cooking of food.

Since the passing of the Bognor Regis Urban District Council Act, 1936, and the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, it is the duty of medical practitioners to notify to the Medical Officer of Health *cases or suspected cases* of food poisoning. Early notification is of paramount importance, together with the retention of suspected food and/or specimens of vomit, faeces, etc., from patients so that early laboratory investigation can be carried out to trace the source of the illness.

#### MILK

There have been revolutionary changes in the control of the milk supply since October 1st, 1949, when the Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Act, 1944, the Milk (Special Designations) Act, 1949, the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, the Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949, and the Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949, came into force.

**Production.**—Dairy farms are now registered with the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and the execution and enforcement of Regulations relating to the health of cattle and clean milk production are the responsibility of that Ministry. The Medical Officer of Health for the District within which such farms are situate remains responsible for ensuring that no disease communicable to man is spread by cattle or personnel.

**Milk sold under Special Designations.**—The Special Designations now authorised are Tuberculin Tested, Pasteurised and Sterilised. Producers of Tuberculin Tested milk of whom there are 4, are licensed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. Licences to pasteurise, originally the responsibility of this authority, are now issued, and control exercised, by the County authority. There are 4 such licensed establishments in this district.

The Milk (Special Designations) (Specified Areas) Order, 1954, which came into operation on the 1st April, 1954, includes Bognor Regis in Area 5 as a specified area in which the use of Special Designations for retail sales of milk is compulsory.

**Dairies and Distribution.**—Registration of dairies, other than dairy farms, and the control of milk distribution, remain the responsibility of this authority. There are 18 premises registered for the distribution of milk in the district, all of whom distribute milk (Tuberculin Tested or Pasteurised) bottled in modern dairies outside this area. Under the Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949, and the Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949, the following licences were issued during 1956 :—

To sell Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	...	...	...	13
To sell Pasteurised Milk	...	...	...	...	16
To sell Sterilised Milk	...	...	...	...	3

**Quality.**—The West Sussex County Council continues to be the authority under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, samples being taken by its Sampling Officers and submitted to the Public Analyst for examination as to whether they conform to the standard of milk fat, etc., as laid down in the Sale of Milk Regulations. Your Public Health Inspectors are also authorised to act in this capacity.

## MEAT

In accordance with Government policy following the cessation of meat rationing, a licence was granted by the Council in respect of *one private slaughter house*, and slaughtering commencing on 16th September, 1954 has continued since that date. Every carcase and all organs of animals slaughtered in the slaughter house have been inspected by the Chief Public Health Inspector or the Additional Public Health Inspector, and complete details of such inspections are shown on page 41.

Routine inspections of all Butchers' Shops in the area have been carried out during the year, when the meat has been inspected, further visits being paid at the request of the butchers to examine any doubtful meat in their possession, details of which may be seen on page 41.

### Shops and Stores.

Efficient refrigerators are installed on the premises of all the meat retailers in the district.

Shops and stores are kept in a generally cleanly condition.

## OTHER FOODS

### Bakehouses.

There are 12 bakehouses in the district. In the majority of cases, the premises were found to be in a satisfactory condition. Those found to be in contravention of the prescribed standard of sanitation through want of cleanliness have been dealt with by informal notices. In all cases the work has been attended to without further action by the Local Authority.

The requirements of the Factories Act are complied with, and in no case during the year has overcrowding been observed.

### Other Places

Stores and places where food is prepared have been inspected, and have been found generally in a satisfactory sanitary condition.

## Bacteriological Examination and Bacteriological Grading of Ice Cream

During the months of May to December, 70 samples of ice cream were taken for bacteriological examination and 70 examined. Samples were taken in sterile jars as received from the Laboratory, and sent on ice in an insulated container to the Analyst. These samples were examined by the methylene blue reduction test and graded as to bacteriological cleanliness in accordance with the method recommended by the Ministry of Health and the Public Health Laboratory Service. The samples examined were taken from 9 different supplies, in 39 cases of pre-packed articles, or from the unbroken bulk as prepared by or received from the manufacturer, and in 31 cases as passed to the public by retailers' own servers from broken bulk. In cases of samples from unbroken bulk or of pre-packed ice cream, the results were communicated to the manufacturer, and in cases of unsatisfactory samples from broken bulk ice cream, appropriate action was taken with the retailer, particularly in connection with sterilization of serving equipment. The samples taken were graded by the Public Health Laboratory as follows:—

SUPPLY	Pre-packed or unbroken bulk				From broken bulk, using retailers' servers			
	No. examined	GRADE			No. examined	GRADE		
		1	2	3		1	2	3
A	9	8	1	—	—	—	—	—
B	—	—	—	—	8	7	1	—
C	8	5	—	1	2	—	—	—
D	7	6	1	—	—	—	—	—
E	5	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
F	5	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
G	5	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
H	—	—	—	—	15	5	4	2
I	—	—	—	—	8	8	—	4
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>5</b>
							<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>

In explanation of the above table:—

Grade 1—time taken to reduce methylene blue  $4\frac{1}{2}$  hours or more.

Grade 2—time taken to reduce methylene blue  $2\frac{1}{2}$  to 4 hours.

Grade 3—time taken to reduce methylene blue  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 2 hours.

Grade 4—time taken to reduce methylene blue 0 hours (i.e., reduction at the end of the pre-incubation period).

### CLEAN FOOD CAMPAIGN.

#### 1. Food Hygiene.

Since the coming into operation of the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, on the 1st January, 1956, a considerable amount of work has been carried out in connection with food premises.

These new Regulations concerning the hygienic preparation, handling and sale of foodstuffs, empower public health authorities to deal with a wider range of food premises, e.g., hotels, boarding houses, private clubs, schools, etc.

A comprehensive survey of all food premises was commenced, and at the end of the year the great majority of such premises had been inspected, and any necessary action taken. A total of 1,452 inspections were carried out in this connection.

Although the Regulations give improved powers to public health authorities, in certain instances standards are not clearly defined and efforts are continuing to deal with the difficult problems which arise.

It is pleasing to record that in the majority of cases, the complete co-operation of the food traders has been obtained in implementing the requirements of the new Regulations.

## 2. Food Premises.

The number of food premises in the area, by type of business, is shown in the following table :—

Food Premises	Meat	Fish	Fried Fish	Grocery	Green Grocery	Ice Cream	Milk	Confec-tionery	Pastry	Restau-rants & Cafes	Licen-sed Prem-ises	Mineral Water	Manu-fact'r's	Boar Hot
599	25	17	8	86	55	185	18	94	27	97	52	1	2	

## 3. Registered Food Premises.

The number of Food Premises registered under local Act powers :—

- (i) Ice Cream Premises (Section 84—Bognor Regis U.D.C. Act, 1936) 185
- (ii) Premises used for preparation or manufacture of potted or preserved meat, fish, or other food, intended for the purpose of sale (Section 100—Bognor U.D.C. Act, 1928) ... ... 3

## 4. Premises Registered for the Distribution of Milk.

The number of premises registered for the distribution of milk under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 ... 18

## 5. Disposal of Condemned Food.

All unsound food was dealt with by burning in the Council's destructor.

## 6. Educational Activities.

A complete card record of all food premises in the area has been compiled, and progress reports have been maintained. Advice, as in previous years, has been given to shop keepers during routine visits carried out by the Food Inspectors.

The campaign for clean food handling has been continued by lectures to local organisations, distribution of suitable literature and posters, and discussions at the various premises with management and staff.

As the Medical Officer of Health is also the School Medical Officer, every opportunity is taken of talking to groups of mothers and children regarding clean food.

## ADULTERATION, ETC., OF FOOD

Samples are taken by the County Council, the Authority for the administration of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and the Labelling of Food Order, 1946.

In addition to the samples taken under the above-mentioned Act, the following were taken by your Inspectors :—

Ice Cream for Bacteriological Grading	...	...	...	70
Milk for Tuberculosis examination	...	...	...	8
Other Foods for Bacteriological Examination	...	...	...	3
Water for Bacteriological Examination	...	...	...	47

The following is a record of samples taken by your Public Health Inspectors since 1925:—

Year	Milk Samples taken for bacteriological content and tubercle bacilli examination	Ice Cream taken for bacteriological content	Samples taken under Food and Drugs Act	Samples of water taken for Bacteriological and Chemical examination	Total number of Samples taken
1925	62	—	4	—	66
1926	113	16	4	—	133
1927	121	8	3	8	140
1928	123	21	1	7	152
1929	127	35	23	2	187
1930	140	28	18	1	187
1931	103	45	17	10	175
1932	95	27	3	7	132
1933	136	18	12	15	181
1934	146	30	9	5	190
1935	160	25	16	6	207
1936	152	41	2	5	200
1937	139	21	—	10	170
1938	112	19	—	16	147
1939	84	62	—	1	147
1940	117	7	—	—	124
1941	97	15	—	—	112
1942	115	18	—	—	133
1943	149	—	—	—	149
1944	146	3	—	—	149
1945	105	14	—	—	119
1946	122	34	—	—	156
1947	110	59	—	—	169
1948	111	70	—	—	181
1949	95	50	—	—	145
1950	—	53	—	—	53
1951	14	53	—	—	67
1952	3	49	—	—	52
1953	8	50	—	—	58
1954	—	40	—	—	40
1955	—	51	15	—	66
1956	9	70	2	47	128
GRAND TOTAL					4,315

### WATER SUPPLY

I am indebted to Mr. E. H. Bacchus, A.M.I.C.E., A.M.Inst.W.E., the Council's Waterworks Engineer and Manager, for the following short report on the Waterworks Undertaking.

The Waterworks Undertaking, owned by the Council, consists of the works and supply area previously comprising the Bognor and Slindon Waterworks Companies. The former was taken over in 1929, under powers conferred in the Bognor (Water, etc.) Act, 1928, and the latter Undertaking was acquired in 1931.

#### Area of Supply.

The Statutory Area of Supply is 58 sq. miles in extent, and consists of the Urban District of Bognor Regis and the undermentioned parishes, in all of which water mains are available.

Aldingbourne	Eartham	Slindon
Bersted	Ford	Tangmere
Boxgrove	Middleton	Tortington
Barnham	†N. Mundham	Walberton
Climping	*Oving	Yapton
Eastergate	Pagham	

\* This parish is at present mainly supplied by the Chichester City Water Undertaking

† This parish is at present supplied by the Selsey Water Company with the consent of the Bognor Regis Urban District Council.

Water supplies are derived from wells situated at Fontwell Avenue, Eastergate, where the Council's Eastergate Pumping Station has two 24 in. boreholes piercing the underlying chalk strata. The Council also own a smaller borehole on the site of the Slindon Works, but this source is not normally in use. Water from Eastergate is re-pumped from this station for the purpose of supplying the high-level area.

The Eastergate Pumping Station is equipped with pumping plant of modern design.

The Undertaking possesses three service reservoirs as under :—

				<i>Gallons capacity</i>
Nore Hill, Slindon	...	...	...	2,000,000
Balls Hut, Fontwell	...	...	...	500,000
Slindon	...	...	...	125,000

The new  $2\frac{1}{2}$  million gallon service reservoir at Little Heath, Eartham, has been completed and will shortly be brought into use. New pumping plant has been installed at Eastergate Pumping Station.

An adequate supply of water was afforded to the area throughout the year from the Council's Waterworks. During 1953 a new 18" trunk main was completed and brought into operation from the Eastergate Pumping Station to Shripney, which was of appreciable benefit during the months of maximum demands. The supply was distributed direct to consumers' premises in all cases and available at all times without restriction.

The quality of the water, as distributed after treatment, was, without exception, of the highest standard of organic and bacterial purity as determined by the examinations of 86 samples, and the results of chemical examination of the water indicated the absence of metals, salinity or mineral constituents in solution. 66 samples of raw water, which is derived from a deep well in the chalk formation, were examined and the results indicated intermittent pollution, but not to an excessive degree, and no difficulty has been experienced in producing a pure and wholesome water by the customary and continuously applied super-chlorination and de-chlorination treatment.

The supply was softened at source after treatment by the base-exchange process, and the average hardness of the water in supply was 10 parts per 100,000.

Regular inspections of the gathering ground were carried out, but the position with regard to the catchment area as a whole cannot be considered satisfactory from a water supply point of view until a comprehensive scheme for sewage disposal for the area is carried out.

Frequent sampling of the raw water provides a check on the general conditions, and samples of the water in distribution prove the efficiency of the sterilisation treatment.

Analysis of Dwelling Houses and Estimated Population Supplied with Water by Bognor Regis U.D.C.

BOGNOR REGIS	District	Properties			Estimated Population
		...	...	...	
Aldingbourne	...	...	...	563	1,800
Barnham	...	...	...	143	470
Bersted	...	...	...	373	1,080
Boxgrove	...	...	...	220	680
Climping	...	...	...	79	260
Eartham	...	...	...	28	130
Eastergate	...	...	...	325	990
*Ford	...	...	...	94	120
Middleton	...	...	...	1,222	2,700
Oving	...	...	...	3	680
Pagham	...	...	...	679	1,450
Slindon	...	...	...	203	540
†Tangmere	...	...	...	204	340
Tortington	...	...	...	14	580
Walberton	...	...	...	506	1,730
Yapton	...	...	...	556	1,540
				5,212	
TOTALS	...	...	...	14,326	40,800

\* includes 52 properties at R.N. Air Station, but not number of personnel

† Includes 143 properties at R.A.F. Station at Tangmere, but not number of personnel

Water is supplied in every case direct to the houses.

I wish to place on record my indebtedness to Mr. Bacchus, the Water-works Engineer and Manager. There has always been co-operation between the two departments concerned, and no effort has been spared to produce a water supply of the highest quality.

## SECTION VI.

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

#### CLOSET ACCOMMODATION, DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The extension of the area on 1st April, 1933, brought about changed conditions and problems. In the old area, the water carriage system was in operation, sewage being conveyed from all houses (except five on the outskirts) by two main systems of sewers to the outfall works. These are situated just North of the sea embankment at the Eastern boundary of the old area and consist of two large storage tanks and a pumping station.

The capacity of the tanks was designed to accommodate the dry-weather flow, collected during a period of six hours, for a population of 40,000 people.

Sewage is pumped from the low-level tank during the period when the outfall is closed, that is, from five hours after high-water until one hour before. At one hour before high water, the outfall is opened and the sewage gravitates out to sea. In case, by reason of adverse weather conditions, the high-level tank cannot be completely emptied at any tide, the remaining sewage can be returned into the low-level tank and pumped thence by a by-pass directly into the outfall pipe.

On the extension of the area, three districts were taken over :

**On the East—Felpham Area.** This is partly drained by a system of sewers to an automatic lifting station east of the Aldingbourne Rife and thence to the Bognor Regis outfall works. There are a number of private roads in the area still unsewered.

**On the North—North Bersted and Shripney Road Areas.** At the time of extension of boundaries, no sewers existed, the areas being drained to cesspools (165 in number), or by earth closets and soakaways. Since that date, however, sewers and three automatic lifting stations have been constructed. As will be seen from the following table, this work has resulted in the abolition of most of the cesspools taken over on extension, as well as a number of cesspools constructed since. In the North Bersted area, a sewer provided by the adjoining rural district passing through North Bersted Street and connecting to the Bognor Regis sewers has provided main drainage facilities for houses in that street. The Shripney Road sewer and lifting station, completed during 1949, provided much needed drainage facilities for this residential, camping and light industrial area.

**On the West—Aldwick Area.** At the time of the extension two small systems of sewers existed :—

- (1) The Jackson sewer and outfall, draining 34 houses in Aldwick Avenue and vicinity. This outfall was abolished by the incorporation of the sewer in the Comprehensive Sewerage Scheme in 1940.
- (2) A system of sewers draining Marine Park Estate and by means of an automatic lifting station, to the Bognor sewer.

In addition, there are several private disposal plants at large residences, but the majority of houses drain to cesspools.

The Comprehensive Sewerage Scheme, completed in 1940, provided main drainage facilities for a large number of houses fronting public highways, and resulted in the abolition of 522 cesspools. Although the scheme also provided for the reception of sewers which it is imperative should be laid upon the private estates in this area, circumstances have prevented the complete sewerage of these private streets, upon which there were at the end of 1956 no less than 173 cesspools out of a total of 203 cesspools in the area.

## CESSPOOLS ADDED AND ABOLISHED DURING 1956

	Existing at Jan. 1st	Abolished	Added	Total
Felpham ... ... ...	107	—	1	108
North Bersted and Shripney Rd.	6	—	—	6
Aldwick ... ... ...	251	51	3	203
	364	51	4	317

The following table shows the number of cesspools in the added areas on April 1st, 1933, the number of new cesspools constructed, and the number abolished between that date and December 31st, 1956.

## CESSPOOLS IN THE URBAN DISTRICT OF BOGNOR REGIS

	Felpham	North Bersted and Shripney Road	Aldwick	Total
Cesspools at the 1st April, 1933 LUS—New Cesspools constructed 1.4.33 to 31.12.56 ...	320	165	361	846
CESS — Cesspools abolished 1.4.33 to 31.12.56 ...	234	45	465	744
	554	210	826	1,590
	446	204	623	1,273
	108	6	203	317

**IT MUST AGAIN BE EMPHASISED THAT BOGNOR REGIS IS  
ESSENTIALLY A SEASIDE HEALTH RESORT, AND CONDITIONS  
CANNOT BE REGARDED AS SATISFACTORY UNTIL ALL  
HOUSES HAVE BEEN PROVIDED WITH MAIN DRAINAGE  
ACILITIES.**

**Surface Water Sewers.** There is a regular system of surface water sewers in the old area, but little provision exists in the added areas. The question of the provision of surface water sewers has received the consideration of the Council, and consulting engineers were engaged to prepare a scheme, which it is hoped will be proceeded with when post-war conditions permit.

## CESSPOOL CLEANSING BY THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

A cesspool cleansing service has been in operation in the Urban District since the extension of the boundaries on the 1st April, 1933. All cesspools are cleansed completely at least four times a year by cesspool cleansing vehicles, each capable of conveying one thousand gallons of cesspool contents.

During the year ended 31st March, 1957, the vehicles carried out 1,391 cesspool cleansings in 2,023 journeys. Approximately 1,968,750 gallons of

cesspool contents were removed, and the total distance covered by the vehicles in carrying out the work amounted to 7,685 miles.

### RODENT CONTROL.

Routine inspection of the district is systematically carried out by the Rodent Officer/Operative.

Complaints received are investigated, treatment is carried out if required, and where necessary advice is given to complainants to assist them in carrying out their obligations under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Routine treatment of sewers has been carried out for a number of years in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. In consultation with representatives of the Ministry a pilot scheme was prepared and introduced, using the new fungicide paranitrophenol. This pilot scheme proved to be satisfactory and will provide a basis for future sewer treatment schemes.

(See page 43).

### REFUSE—COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The refuse is collected from all premises at weekly intervals. Where it is thought that this is inadequate, a bi-weekly or more frequent collection is carried out, such as in schools, hotels, and other large establishments.

Any complaints and applications for a bi-weekly collection are thoroughly investigated and representations made to the appropriate Department.

The refuse was conveyed to the Refuse Destructor by Barrier Loading S.D. Freighters operating a door to door service.

The Refuse Destructor is situated just off the Shripney Road on the northern boundary of the district.

### SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS

There are no swimming baths or pools in the area.

### CAMPING SITES

(1) The number of sites in the area used for camping purposes during 1956	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
(2) The number of camping sites in respect of which consents have been issued by the local authority under Section 107 of the Bognor Regis Urban District Council Act, 1936	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10

### PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS WHICH CAN BE CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS

#### Houses Let in Lodgings.

There is one house in the district registered as a house let in lodgings.

#### Tents, Vans and Sheds, and Camping Grounds.

Bye-laws are in force to regulate any sites let for camping during the summer season as regards the provision of water supply, proper sanitary accommodation, and precautions to be taken in cases of infectious disease.

It was found that these bye-laws were inadequate for the control of collective camping, and the Council obtained further powers under Sections 106-110 of the Bognor Regis Urban District Council Act, 1936, whereby bye-laws were made:

- (a) Prescribing an area within which camping grounds might not be used without the consent of the Council; and
- (b) for the control of camping grounds within the district.

#### Pleasure Fairs.

Bye-laws made under the Bognor Regis Urban District Council Act, 1936, are in force within the district.

### Offensive Trades.

There are no offensive trades within the meaning of the Public Health Act, 1936, in the district.

### Public Mortuary.

46 bodies were received at the Mortuary during the year, and post-mortems were held in 44 cases.

During the year the new mortuary, situated in London Road, Bognor Regis, was completed. *This Mortuary* is provided with modern equipment and contains a 3-body refrigeration unit.

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The following is a report of the inspections, etc., carried out by the Chief Public Health Inspector and his Assistant:—

### 1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

#### A. The number and nature of the Inspections made during the year 1956:—

Total number of houses inspected:—

(a) Recorded under the Housing Regulations:—

(i) Houses where no defects were found to exist	Nil
(ii) Houses defective, but capable of remedy at reasonable expense	Nil
(iii) Houses defective, but not capable of remedy at reasonable expense	I

(b) Under the Public Health Acts:—

(i) Houses where no defects were found to exist	123
(ii) Houses where defects were found to exist	119
	242

The number of inspections made:—

Primary inspections	...	...	...	243
Revisits	...	...	...	561
Smoke tests to drains	...	...	...	6
Water tests to drains	...	...	...	57
				867

#### B. The number of defective dwellings on books during the year 1956:—

INFORMAL NOTICES on books at 1st January, 1956 less those for which Statutory Notices were served during the year (see below) ... 46

STATUTORY NOTICES on books at 1st January, 1956 ... 116

INFORMAL NOTICES served during the year 1956 ... 2

STATUTORY NOTICES served during the year 1956 ... 2

REPRESENTATION under Section 11, Housing Act 1936 ... I 165

#### C. The result of the service of such notices:—

INFORMAL NOTICES outstanding at 31st December, 1955, and since complied with ... 42

INFORMAL NOTICES complied with in 1956, which were served during the year 1956 ... 88

STATUTORY NOTICE complied with in 1956, which was outstanding at 31st December, 1955 ... Nil

STATUTORY NOTICES complied with in 1956, which were served during the year 1956 (Public Health Act 2 132

TOTAL NUMBER of Notices on the book at 31st December, 1956 (Informal 32; Statutory 1) ... 3

## 2. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

### (A) Slaughterhouses.

(a) Number of visits to slaughterhouse	...	...	...	...	...	112
(b) Informal notices	...	...	...	...	...	1

### Carcasses and Offal Inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle exclu'ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horse
Number killed (if known) ...	191	3	123	601	602	—
Number inspected ...	191	3	123	601	602	—
<b>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis</b>						
Whole carcases condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned... ...	46	1	—	2	39	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticercosis ...	24.1%	33.3%	—	0.3%	6.5%	—
<b>Tuberculosis only.</b>						
Whole carcases condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ... ...	6	—	—	—	4	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	3.1%	—	—	—	0.7%	—
<b>Cysticercosis</b>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned... ...	4	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration ... ... ...	4	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—

### (B) Butchers' Shops and Other Food Premises.

Premises inspected	Inspections (including vehicles)	Informal action	Samples taken
Butchers' Shops and Stores ...	142	22	—
Other Food Shops and Stores ...	916	97	—
Ice Cream Premises ...	323	2	70
Dairies ... ... ...	71	1	8
<b>TOTALS</b> ... ...	1,452	122	78

Contraventions dealt with :—					
(a)	Protection from contamination	...	...	...	64
(b)	Cleanliness and maintenance of premises and applicances...				46
(c)	Personal cleanliness ...	...	...	...	I
(d)	Provision and maintenance of washing facilities				23
(e)	Failure to display name and address on stall or container ...				2
(f)	Other offences	...	...	...	22

(C) Unsound food surrendered :—

Meat	...	...	29 tins	1 box dates
Fish	...	...	6 tins	80 lbs. apples
Vegetables	...	...	47 tins	5 cwt. potatoes
Fruit	...	...	57 tins	16½ lbs. butter
Soup	...	...	5 tins	2½ lbs. margarine
Milk	...	...	13 tins	1 lb. cooking fat
Eggs	...	...	3 tins	6 lbs. sausages
Preserves	...	...	1 tin	26 lbs. bacon
Ox Tongues	...	...	1 tin	51 lbs. meat
Ham	...	...	8 tins	8½ lbs. cheese
				21 stone 3½ lbs. fish
				13 lbs. currants
				4 ozs. ground almonds
				1 chicken
				4 galls. shrimps
				2 jars mussels

All condemned food was destroyed by burning in the Council's Destructor.

—(A)—FACTORIES (Mechanical)

(i)	Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	59
(ii)	Notices :—						
	(a) Informal	...	...	...	...	...	4
	(b) Statutory	...	...	...	...	...	0
(iii)	Contraventions dealt with :—						
	Sanitary accommodation—						
	Insufficient	...	...	...	...	...	I
	Unsuitable or defective	...	...	...	...	...	I
	Not separate for sexes	...	...	...	...	...	—
	Cleanliness	...	...	...	...	...	I
	Other Offences	...	...	...	...	...	I

(B)—FACTORIES (Non-Mechanical)

(i)	Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	II
(ii)	Notices :—						
	(a) Informal	...	...	...	...	...	I
	(b) Statutory	...	...	...	...	...	0
(iii)	Contraventions dealt with :—						
	(a) Ventilated. Space	...	...	...	...	...	I

(C)—FACTORIES (Bakehouses)

(i)	Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	97
(ii)	Notices :—						
	(a) Informal	...	...	...	...	...	I
	(b) Statutory	...	...	...	...	...	0
(iii)	Contraventions dealt with :—						
	(a) Want of cleanliness	...	...	...	...	...	I
	(b) Other Offences	...	...	...	...	...	2

(D) FACTORIES (Out-Workers' Premises)

(i)	Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	2
(ii)	Informal action	...	...	...	...	...	0

(E) FACTORIES (Building Sites)

(i)	Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	I9
-----	-------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

#### 4.—SHOPS ACT, 1950

(i) Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	420
(ii) Informal action	...	...	...	...	...	9

#### 5.—PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS

##### (a) Stables

(i) Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	2
(ii) Informal action	...	...	...	...	...	0

##### (b) Tents, Vans and Sheds, and Camping Grounds

(i) Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	131
(ii) Informal action	...	...	...	...	...	1
(iii) Contraventions dealt with:—						
(a) Insufficient spacing of vans	...	...	...	...	...	—
(b) Defective and insufficient sanitary accommodation	...	...	...	...	...	1
(c) Other Offences	...	...	...	...	...	—

#### 6.—INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND DISINFECTION.

(i) Visits	...	...	...	...	...	255
(ii) Action taken:—						
(a) Houses disinfected after notifiable disease (excepting tuberculosis)	...	...	...	...	...	5
(b) Houses disinfected after non-notifiable disease	...	...	...	...	...	7
(c) Houses disinfected after tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	24
(d) Loads of bedding disinfected after notifiable disease (excepting tuberculosis)	...	...	...	...	...	8
(e) Loads of bedding disinfected after non-notifiable disease	...	...	...	...	...	5
(f) Loads of bedding disinfected after tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	17
(g) Loads of bedding destroyed after non-notifiable disease	...	...	...	...	...	1
(h) Loads of bedding destroyed after tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	—
(i) Notices excluding contacts from day schools	...	...	...	...	...	71
(j) Notices excluding contacts from Sunday Schools	...	...	...	...	...	—
(k) Library books (exposed to infection) disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	19
(l) Letters to other Authorities <i>re</i> contacts	...	...	...	...	...	3

#### 7.—RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION.—

##### Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

A.	(i) Premises inspected	...	...	...	...	...	2,820
	(ii) Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	4,377
	(iii) Infestations dealt with	...	...	...	...	...	282

#### B.—Systematic Treatment of Sewers during year.

Manholes baited	...	...	...	...	...	...	380
-----------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

#### 8.—NUISANCES FROM ANIMALS

(i) Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
(ii) Informal action	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

#### 9.—ACCUMULATIONS, ETC.

(i) Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
(ii) Informal action	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

#### 10.—OBSTRUCTED AND OFFENSIVE DRAINS.

(i) Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
(ii) Informal action	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

In addition, 12 Council houses and 20 non-Council houses were found to be infested with other vermin and were duly disinfested. Verminous bedding as either disinfested or destroyed in 6 other cases.

The method employed for freeing these houses was spraying with liquid insecticide. Disinfestation is carried out by staff of the Public Health Department.

The Staff of the Housing Department who visit all the Council houses for rent collection, act in a supervisory capacity and have every opportunity of advising tenants concerning the prevention of infestation or re-infestation after cleansing.

#### 4.—PETROLEUM ACTS.

PROBLEMS ACTS.  
Visits ... ... ... ... ... ... 173  
Informal action ... ... ... ... ... ... 6

## SECTION VII.

### METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS FOR THE YEAR 1956.

#### Health Resort Meteorological Station, Bognor Regis.

The Meteorological Station is situated in the Waterloo Square Gardens and is 24 feet above Mean Sea Level.

The Station enclosure contains a Stevenson screen in which the shade thermometers—maximum, minimum, dry bulb and wet bulb—are mounted 4 feet above the ground; an earth thermometer at 4 ft. depth; a standard 5 in rain guage; and a patch of bare ground 6 ft. square for recording the daily state of the ground surface. A grass-minimum thermometer is placed at grass level within the enclosure at 6 p.m. each day. All the thermometers are Fahrenheit and certified by the National Physical Laboratory.

The Campbell-Stokes Sunshine Recorder is fixed on the south parapet of the Old Church Tower in Market Street at a height of  $61\frac{1}{2}$  feet above ground level.

The standard Fortin Barometer, the cistern of which is 32 feet above Mean Sea Level, is kept in the office of the Meteorological Observer.

All the instruments are examined and tested periodically by an Officer of the Meteorological Office, Air Ministry, when the general operation of the Station is scrutinized.

Observations are made every day throughout the year at 9 a.m. (10 a.m. during the operation of Summer Time) and 6 p.m.

A code report of the day's weather is sent by telegram each evening to the Meteorological Office, London, and the leading newspapers are supplied with reports from that office.

A detailed report of observations is forwarded to the Meteorological Office each month for publication in their journals and for such other statistical purposes as they may deem them of use.

#### Observations for the Year.

The weather of 1956 can be briefly described as being below average in practically every respect. It included unusually long cold, dry, wet and dull spells.

The month of February was extremely cold and dry; the mean maximum temperature reaching only  $37^{\circ}$  and the mean minimum temperature  $20^{\circ}$ . Some snow fell during the month but this never exceeded  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch and the total precipitation amounted to only .27 inches.

After a wet January, the four months, February, March, April and May had the lowest total rainfall (2.29 inches) since continuous records were kept. Most of March was dry and sunny and this fine weather continued until early June. During the summer months the amount of sunshine was well below average and the rainfall above average. The weather improved generally in October and November, when it was dry and mainly sunny, but December was a dull and rainy, though mild, month.

The total number of hours of bright sunshine of 1,722.1 hours was 47.7 hours below the 30 years' (1924-1953) average, and the total rainfall of 24.8 inches was 4.71 inches below the 30 years' average.

Tables I to IV in subsequent pages give detailed information relating to pressure, wind, maximum and minimum temperatures, sub-soil temperature, humidity, rainfall and sunshine, together with comparisons with averages of 30 years from 1924 to 1953. The main features of the weather during the year, however, have been abstracted from the records:—

Total amount of bright sunshine: 1,722.1 hours.

Daily average of sunshine: 4.7 hours.

Number of days with sunshine: 301.

Sunniest day: 25th July (14.7 hours).

Warmest day: 24th July (78°).

Coldest day: 1st February (25°).

Lowest temperature on the grass: 19° on 2nd and 21st February.

Warmest nights: 23rd and 24th September (62°).

Coldest night: 2nd February (17°).

Warmest month: July (mean average temperature 61°).

Coldest month: February (mean average temperature 31.5°).

Mean yearly temperature: 49.5°.

Rainfall: 24.85 inches.

Number of rain days (.01 in. or more): 137.

Number of wet days (.04 in. or more): 92.

Wettest day: 4th September (1.10 ins.).

Mean relative humidity: at 9 a.m. 81%.

TABLE 1

 AIR PRESSURE AT 0900 G.M.T.  
 (Inches)

 WIND  
 (0900 G.M.T. observations)

Year 1956	AIR PRESSURE AT 0900 G.M.T. (Inches)		WIND (0900 G.M.T. observations)											
	Barometer reduced to 32° and Mean Sea Level plus Gravity at Latitude 45°	Highest adjusted reading	Lowest adjusted reading		Date		Calm	N	NE	E	SE	S	SW	W
	Inches	Date	Inches	Date	10th	o	o	5	o	1	1	8	1	15
January	...	...	29.936	30.08	4th	28.884	10th	o	5	o	1	1	8	1
February	...	...	30.292	30.770	3rd	29.772	13th	o	o	20	o	o	2	0
March	...	...	30.044	30.608	8th	29.368	21st	o	o	13	1	10	0	4
April	...	...	30.028	30.424	19th	29.566	14th	o	o	13	1	5	o	3
May	...	...	30.252	30.520	15th	29.902	22nd	o	o	5	o	4	1	9
June	...	...	30.132	30.496	23rd	29.664	4th	o	1	3	o	o	1	16
July	...	...	30.010	30.428	25th	29.242	29th	o	1	6	o	3	o	14
August	...	...	29.914	30.396	8th	29.372	25th	o	o	4	o	1	0	17
September	...	...	30.028	30.302	15th	29.682	6th	o	o	5	5	4	1	6
October	...	...	30.226	30.528	13th	29.966	18th	2	2	4	o	1	1	7
November	...	...	30.216	30.606	6th	29.732	9th	o	1	6	o	2	o	6
December	...	...	30.116	30.570	7th	29.262	30th	o	o	3	o	4	o	12
Average for the year	...	30.100	—	—	—	—	Totals	2	5	87	7	35	5	96
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TABLE II

Year 1956	Temperature in Shade Degrees Fahrenheit										Frosts						
	Mean Minimum					Mean Maximum					Sub-Soil	On Grass					
	Mean Minimum		Mean Maximum		Date	Mean Minimum		Mean Maximum		Date							
January ...	47	36	41.5	+0.5	53	1st & 29th	36	8th	45	29th	29	25th	46	26	25th	2	13
February ...	37	26	31.5	-9.0	50	5th & 28th	25	1st	40	29th	17	2nd	43	19	2nd & 21st	22	21
March ...	48	39	43.5	Nil	57	30th	41	11th & 15th	46	27th	28	13th	43	26	13th	3	7
April ...	51	38	44.5	-3.5	58	3rd & 10th	46	2nd	48	11th	31	7th	47	25	27th	0	12
May ...	61	46	53.5	+0.5	75	31st	53	3rd	54	28th & 29th	37	19th	52	31	19th	0	0
June ...	63	51	57.0	-2.0	72	12th & 26th	57	7th & 16th	57	29th	43	15th	56	40	15th	0	0
July ...	66	56	61.0	-1.0	78	24th	61	3rd	60	28th	50	12th	59	47	11th	0	0
August ...	65	53	57.0	-5.0	70	11th	60	31st	61	10th	47	31st	60	43	29th	0	0
September ...	64	55	59.5	+0.5	71	13th	62	1,3,4,6,18&27	62	23rd & 24th	48	1st & 8th	59	45	8th & 27th	0	0
October ...	57	46	51.5	-1.0	62	1st & 23rd	48	30th	57	17th	33	26th	57	29	26th	0	2
November ...	50	39	44.5	-2.0	55	4,5,8,9&10th	37	23rd	51	9th	26	23rd	51	22	22nd	5	8
December ...	49	40	44.5	+2.5	54	6th & 12th	38	22nd	50	16th	28	27th	48	23	27th	3	6
Average for year	55	44	49.5	=1.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	52	—	— Totals	35	69

TABLE III

RAINFALL: WATERLOO SQUARE (INCHES)

Year 1956	HUMIDITY			RAINFALL			No. of rainy days of .04 inch or more
	Average Temperature at 0900 G.M.T.	Relative humidity Saturation = 100	Monthly Totals (Inches)	Difference from Average of thirty years 1924-1953	Greatest fall in 24 hours. (Inches)		
January ...	40.6	39.4	89	1.65	3.07	4.72	+1.51
February ...	30.9	29.2	79	.04	.23	.27	-1.96
March ...	43.5	41.1	80	.11	.07	.18	-1.64
April ...	46.1	42.8	75	.83	.71	1.54	-.35
May ...	55.5	51.4	75	.08	.22	.30	-1.73
June ...	58.3	54.4	77	.87	1.05	1.92	+.31
July ...	61.7	58.6	82	.36	1.95	2.31	+.18
August ...	60.0	56.6	80	1.52	1.62	3.14	+.79
September ...	60.9	58.1	84	.75	2.76	3.51	+1.13
October ...	51.8	49.5	83	.36	1.47	1.83	-1.34
November ...	44.2	42.3	85	.32	.47	.79	-2.96
December ...	44.6	43.5	92	1.36	2.98	4.34	+1.35
Year's average ...	49.8	47.2	81	—	—	—	-4.71
TOTALS ...	—	—	—	8.25	16.60	24.85	—
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## BRIGHT SUNSHINE

Year 1956	Totals : Hours and tenths	Difference from average of thirty years 1924-1953	Number of sun recorded days	Brightest days	
				Date	Hours
January ...	72.3 (40.4)	± 4.6	21 (12)	15th	7.1
February ...	100.0 (105.8)	+17.5	23 (24)	25th	9.3
March ...	163.7 (180.0)	+23.0	26 (28)	9th	10.2
April ...	171.4 (176.9)	— 6.2	27 (27)	21st & 23rd	12.4
May ...	262.6 (227.2)	+43.8	31 (29)	21st	13.7
June ...	161.8 (208.6)	—75.8	25 (29)	15th & 26th	13.8
July ...	187.4 (273.3)	—28.9	28 (30)	25th	14.7
August ...	207.1 (222.8)	— 4.1	30 (31)	8th	14.0
September ...	141.5 (180.4)	—19.5	25 (29)	2nd	10.9
October ...	130.6 (141.8)	+10.1	28 (28)	6th & 13th	9.1
November ...	95.0 (56.3)	+22.0	26 (22)	7th	8.4
December ...	28.7 (43.0)	—34.5	11 (13)	26th	4.5
Totals ...	1722.1 (1856.5)	—47.7	301 (302)	—	—

The figures in brackets relate to the corresponding periods last year

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*Reporter, Ltd., Gravesend.*

